

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 and 21-22 of the application stand rejected. Claims 1, 8 and 11 are amended to clarify Applicant's claimed invention. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of pending Claims 1-19 and 21-22 in light of the remarks herein.

35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-19 and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Cheng et al. U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2003/0037055 ("Cheng"). The Examiner submits that Cheng discloses all the elements in these claims, or that Cheng in combination with Applicant's admitted prior art render all elements obvious. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection.

Claims 1, 8, 11 as amended each include an element relating to generating a user interface that explains to a user the machine's search logic and results. Claim 19 includes an element relating to a user interface that explains to a user a computer system's search logic and results. Therefore this element is present in all independent claims pending, and thus by inheritance in all claims pending.

Cheng is merely a description of a system for searching a hash based content associative memory. Nowhere does Cheng even contemplate a user or a user interface, and certainly nowhere the element relating to generating a user interface that explains to a user the machine's search logic and results as in all of Applicant's independent claims. Therefore, these claims may not be properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Cheng, and therefore the rejections of claims 1, 8 11 and 19 cannot stand for at least this reason and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of all other claims pending rely on these rejections of claims 1, 8, 11 and 19. Therefore, the rejections of the other claims, viz. claims 2-7, 9, 10, 12-18, 21 and 22 cannot stand for at least this reason and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome and that pending Claims 1-19 and 21-22

are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance in this case. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (714) 669-1261.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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